

We must end the plague of gun violence that claims so many innocent lives.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, July 21, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,630,350,182,425.20 (Five trillion, six hundred thirty billion, three hundred fifty million, one hundred eighty-two thousand, four hundred twenty-five dollars and twenty cents).

One year ago, July 21, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,535,209,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred thirty-five billion, two hundred nine million).

Five years ago, July 21, 1994, the Federal debt stood at \$4,628,452,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred twenty-eight billion, four hundred fifty-two million).

Ten years ago, July 21, 1989, the Federal debt stood at \$2,802,628,000,000 (Two trillion, eight hundred two billion, six hundred twenty-eight million) which reflects a debt increase of almost \$3 trillion—\$2,827,722,182,425.20 (Two trillion, eight hundred twenty-seven billion, seven hundred twenty-two million, one hundred eighty-two thousand, four hundred twenty-five dollars and twenty cents) during the past 10 years.

OKLAHOMA CITY NATIONAL MEMORIAL INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise today to lend my support for the inclusion of \$15,000,000 million for the Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism. This important funding brings to completion the creation of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Trust as specified by PL. 104-58.

During the 104th Congress, we created the Oklahoma City National Memorial Trust to commemorate the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma City National Memorial will consist of three components: the actual Memorial, an interactive learning museum, and the Memorial Institute now funded in this legislation.

Fundraising for the symbolic Memorial and the Memorial Center is nearly complete and construction for the symbolic Memorial is complete. With the funding provided in this legislation, the Memorial Institute is one step closer to a reality. Already, an implementation plan for the Memorial Institute is complete and work has begun to prepare for the construction.

In preparation, the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation and the Oklahoma City Memorial Trust have entered into a partnership with the Oklahoma Alliance for Public Policy Research to establish an operational relationship for the Memorial Institute. The Alliance consists of all of Oklahoma's research universities (Oklahoma State, University of Oklahoma, and Tulsa University), while the

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center will perform the administrative and functional duties as directed by the Institute's management team.

The Alliance meets the joint public-private partnership arrangement provided for in the Oklahoma City National Memorial Trust Act. This joint partnership is both prudent and necessary as Oklahoma and the nation begins to consider the broader implications of domestic terrorism.

The Memorial Institute will be the only institute of its kind in the nation dedicated to understanding, deterring, and mitigating against terrorism. Naturally, it is only fitting that such a center is located in Oklahoma given our close, personal relationship with domestic terrorism. Yet this Memorial Institute will go beyond being just another reminder of the tragic event that struck Oklahoma and the nation early in the morning of April 19, 1995.

The Memorial Institute will also provide a collaboration and exchange of knowledge between public and private, Federal and state, and military and civilian efforts to counter terrorism. Another important issue that will be researched at the Memorial Institute is how to better coordinate and integrate health care and medical efforts associated with our response to terrorism. This collaborative research on emerging counter-terrorism projects will lend key insights to ensuring that the events of April 19 never occur again.

Mr. President, I thank the Chairman, Senator GREGG, and the Ranking Member, Senator HOLLINGS, for efforts to secure this important funding for the Memorial Institute. Their efforts will long be remembered by the researchers who spend time at the Memorial Institute and the American public who stand to gain countless benefits from their research. Oklahoma and the Nation thank them.

COMMENDING A NAVAL AVIATOR

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to commend a constituent of mine from Fort Collins, Colorado—Lieutenant Commander Carl Oesterle, an F-18 pilot on the air craft carrier U.S.S. *Constellation*. Colorado is a state blessed with a large number of dedicated active duty personnel and retired military, and as a member of the Armed Services Committee I like to take the opportunity to commend our personnel when they conduct themselves in a top notch manner.

I am sure that LCDR Oesterle would insist that he was doing nothing more than his duty on June 23, while participating in a night training mission in the Pacific. But his actions in salvaging his seriously disabled fighter by conducting an emergency landing on the Constellation demonstrate the excellent training and dedication of our nation's fighter pilots. The episode is outlined very well in a July 9, article

in the Washington Times and I ask unanimous consent that this article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Times, July 9, 1999]

INSIDE THE RING—NAVY HEROICS

(By Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough)

The Navy aviation community is buzzing over the heroics of an F-18C pilot on the carrier USS *Constellation*, or "Connie" to her friends.

On June 23, as the pilot catapulted off the deck in the Pacific for a night mission, he experienced twin engine problems blamed on the dreaded ingestion of foreign objects, such as a metal washer or shirt button, that sometimes miss detection on deck, according to a Navy source.

The \$35 million strike fighter was so crippled, aviators on the Connie thought the pilot would quickly bail out.

But instead of taking the easy way, the pilot stuck with the plane, coaxing its altitude up to 80 feet, then 150 as he jettisoned fuel.

Meanwhile, the ship's crew scurried to erect netting, called a barricade, to trap the aircraft if the pilot could achieve enough speed and altitude to manhandle it into landing position.

His first pass was high. On a second try, as tension grew and the landing signal officer barked commands via radio, the pilot hit the barricade dead center. The ship erupted in cheers.

"Everyone on the platform was hugging and almost in tears," said an officer who helped the pilot to safety. "Our prayer was definitely answered as Oyster (the pilot's nickname) popped open the canopy and hopped out of the jet."

What motivated the pilot to risk his life to save the plane?

A naval pilot in Washington offered this: "It's long been a question in flying circles on when to make the determination it's time to eject. With today's zero-defect-mentality and second-guessing. There's tremendous pressure for a guy to stay with the airplane. It's a tough call."

Cmdr. Dave Koontz, a Navy spokesman in San Diego, could not confirm that the pilot encountered double engine problems. He said one engine failed and the Navy has started an inquiry to find out why.

"You're trained to handle emergencies and there is a variety of emergencies that come up," said Cmdr. Koontz, a former helicopter pilot who served on the Constellation. "I personally think what he did was pretty heroic."

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1995. An act to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to empower teachers, improve student achievement through high-quality professional development for teachers, reauthorize the Reading Excellence Act, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

S. 880. An act to amend the Clean Air Act to remove flammable fuels from the list of

substances with respect to which reporting and other activities are required under risk management plan program.

S. 900. An act to enhance competition in the financial services industry by providing a prudential framework for the affiliation of banks, securities firms, insurance companies, and other financial service providers, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2465) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. HOBSON, Mr. PORTER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WALSH, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. ADERHOLT, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. OLIVER, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. BOYD, Mr. DICKS, and Mr. OBEY, as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2490) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. KILDEE, Mr. WOLF, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. HOYER, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. OBEY, as managers of the conference on the part of the House.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 361. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer John R. and Margaret J. Lowe of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land so as to correct an error in the patent issued to the their predecessors in interest.

S. 449. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to the personal representative of the estate of Fred Steffens of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land comprising the Steffens family property.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the president pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1995. An act to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to empower teachers, improve student achievement through high-quality professional development for teachers, reauthorize the Reading Excellence Act, and for other purposes,

to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Resources.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on July 22, 1999, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bills:

S. 361. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to John R. and Margaret J. Lowe of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land so as to correct an error in the patent issued to their predecessors in interest.

S. 449. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to the personal representative of the estate of Fred Steffens of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land comprising the Steffens family property.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. Res. 159: An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2000" (Rept. No. 106-118).

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance:

Report to accompany the bill (S. 1386) to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to extend the authorization for trade adjustment assistance (Rept. No. 106-119).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER, for the Committee on Armed Services:

F. Whitten Peters, of the District of Columbia, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

Arthur L. Money, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

Curt Hebert, Jr., of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the term expiring June 30, 2004. (Reappointment)

Earl E. Devaney, of Massachusetts, to be Inspector General, Department of the Interior.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. HATCH, for the Committee on the Judiciary:

Charles R. Wilson, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Ronnie L. White, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Adalberto Jose Jordan, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

William Haskell Alsop, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Marsha J. Pechman, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. SMITH of Oregon):

S. 1412. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the reporting requirements regarding higher education tuition and related expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 1413. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the deduction from the estate tax for family-owned business interest; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MACK:

S. 1414. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore access to home health services covered under the Medicare program, and to protect the Medicare program from financial loss while preserving the due process rights of home health agencies; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 1415. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for S corporation reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL):

S. 1416. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Agreement of 1937 to allow a modified bloc voting by cooperative associations of milk producers in connection with the scheduled August referendum on Federal Milk Marketing Order reform; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 1417. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend the authority of State Medicaid fraud control units to investigate and prosecute fraud in connection with Federal health care programs and abuse of residents of board and care facilities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 1418. A bill to provide for the holding of court at Natchez, Mississippi in the same manner as court is held at Vicksburg, Mississippi, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 1419. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to designate May as "National Military Appreciation Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. INOUE, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1420. A bill to establish a fund for the restoration and protection of ocean and coastal resources, to amend and reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1421. A bill to impose restrictions on the sale of cigars; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER: